

The Element 1--the 5 WPM Morse examination should be kept as part of the Amateur Radio Examinations for a General and Extra Class FCC License.

Morse Code has a narrower bandwidth, can be used with less power to have a conversation, and can be heard more easily through heavy interference than other modes.

Morse Code can be used by Hams with speech problems or who can not speak at all without having to buy expensive equipment or being forced to use digital modes should they not want or can afford to do so.

It is more effective to communicate with at low power and causes much less interference if a Ham lives in a neighborhood where Ham Radio is restricted.

Morse Code equipment is less expensive to purchase and uses less parts than a multi-mode radio if the Ham chooses to build their equipment rather than buy it.

Amateur Radio also plays a vital part in both natural and man-made emergencies. Homeland Security is also strengthened by the many modes of communication that we can use.

Morse also has a historic nature since it is the first digital mode.

There are Hams such as myself who would rather send messages by a key than type a message or talk, because of a handicap I do not type as fast as I can send code.

Thank you.

Lee Groce